

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (previously presented) A method of providing a
2 program L time units in length to a user, comprising the
3 steps of:
4 transmitting said program L time units in length on a
5 first channel;
6 storing a first segment of said program received from
7 said first channel;
8 beginning the presentation of the stored first segment
9 of said program to the user;
10 receiving a second segment of said program at least L
11 time units after beginning to store the first segment of
12 said program; and
13 presenting to the user the second segment of said
14 program when the presentation of the first segment of said
15 program is completed.

1 Claim 2 (previously presented) The method of claim 1,
2 wherein receiving a second segment of said program includes
3 receiving said second segment from a second channel on
4 which said program L time units in length is transmitted,
5 the method further comprising the steps of:
6 storing program data included in the second segment of
7 said program while presenting at least a portion of the
8 first segment of said program to the user.

1 Claim 3 (original) The method of claim 2, further
2 comprising the steps of:
3 receiving program guide information; and

4 identifying, from the received program guide
5 information, a broadcast channel upon which the second
6 segment of said program is being broadcast.

1 Claim 4 (original) The method of claim 3,

2 wherein the first segment of said program is an
3 initial program segment;

4 wherein the second segment of said program is a main
5 program segment; and

6 wherein the second segment of said program is received
7 as part of a periodic broadcast of said first and second
8 segments of said program.

1 Claim 5 (original) The method of claim 3, further

2 comprising the step of:

3 selecting, from a plurality of broadcast channels upon
4 which the second segment of said program is being
5 broadcast, one of said broadcast channels from which to
6 receive the second segment of said program.

1 Claim 6 (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the step

2 of selecting one of said broadcast channels includes the
3 step of selecting the first broadcast channel upon which
4 the second segment of said program will be transmitted at
5 or following the start of the presentation of the stored
6 first segment of said program to the user.

1 Claim 7 (original) The method of claim 6,

2 wherein the maximum delay between broadcasts of the
3 second program segment during a fixed time interval is C
4 time units, the step of storing a first segment of said

5 program including the step of storing at least C time units
6 of video data; and
7 wherein $L > C$.

1 Claim 8 (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the
2 maximum delay between broadcasts of the second program
3 segment is C time units, the step of storing a first
4 segment of said program including the step of storing at
5 least Y time units of video data, where $L > C \geq Y$.

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1 Claim 9 (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the
2 method further comprises the step of:
3 broadcasting the first segment of said program which
4 is stored, on a first communications channel, prior to
5 performing the storing step; and
6 broadcasting the second segment of said program which
7 is presented to the user on a second communications channel
8 prior to performing the receiving step.

1 Claim 10 (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step
2 of storing program data corresponding to the second segment
3 of said program includes the step of storing program data
4 in a portion of a cache which is operated as a first-in,
5 first-out data structure.

1 Claim 11 (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the
2 step of:
3 beginning the presentation of the stored first segment
4 of said program to the user includes the steps of:
5 performing at least one of a descrambling operation
6 and a decrypting operation on at least some data included
7 in the first segment of said program; and

8 outputting video data generated as a function of
9 performing at least one of said descrambling operation and
10 decrypting operation to a presentation device.

Claims 12-49 (canceled)
